

WEATHER ON THE ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC OCEANS

NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN

By F. A. YOUNG

With the exception of the tropical hurricane that will be referred to later, the weather over the North Atlantic Ocean presented few unusual features. Gales of extra-tropical origin were reported on from two to four days over different sections of the steamer lanes, and were, for the most part, of comparatively moderate intensity.

Fog was very prevalent in the vicinity of Nantucket where it was reported on 19 days; over the Grand Banks it was somewhat less frequent than usual, and was not far from the normal over the steamer lanes and off the European coast.

TABLE 1.—Averages, departures, and extremes of atmospheric pressure at sea level, 8 a. m. (75th meridian), North Atlantic Ocean, August, 1927

Stations	Average pressure	Departure ¹	Highest	Date	Lowest	Date
	<i>Inches</i>	<i>Inch</i>	<i>Inches</i>		<i>Inches</i>	
Belle Island, Newfoundland.....	29.92	+0.03	30.34	15th....	29.42	3d.
Halifax.....	30.04	+0.06	30.46	27th....	29.64	2d.
Nantucket.....	29.99	-0.01	30.30	26th....	29.64	24th.
Hatteras.....	29.99	-0.05	30.14	22d....	29.86	18th.
Key West.....	29.99	+0.01	30.08	1st ²	29.92	13th.
New Orleans.....	30.02	+0.05	30.12	5th....	29.90	13th. ³
Swan Island.....	29.87	-0.04	29.92	1st ²	29.80	6th.
Turks Island.....	30.04	+0.04	30.12	1st....	29.96	22d.
Bermuda.....	30.09	+0.04	30.32	1st....	29.92	13th.
Horta, Azores.....	30.20	0.00	30.42	26th....	29.94	22d.
Lerwick, Shetland, Islands.....	29.80	0.00	30.33	30th....	29.35	22d.
Valencia, Ireland.....	29.86	-0.06	30.32	25th....	29.32	7th.
London.....	29.90	-0.08	30.34	3d....	29.48	22d.

¹ From normals shown on H. O. Pilot Chart, based on observations at Greenwich mean noon, or 7 a. m. 75th meridian.

² And on other dates.

³ Mean of 29 observations; 2 days missing.

From the 1st to 5th moderate weather was the rule over the entire ocean, with the exception of moderate gales on the 2d and 5th over a limited area west of the 55th meridian, between the 35th and 45th parallels.

On the 6th favorable weather prevailed generally, except for a comparatively slight cyclonic disturbance over the eastern section of the steamer lanes, and winds of

moderate gale force off the coast of Honduras, as shown by report in table.

From the 10th to 16th anticyclonic conditions were the rule, except that on the 10th a disturbance was central near 45° N., 40° W., and on the 16th southerly gales were encountered between the 40th parallel and Newfoundland.

From the 18th to 21st a well-defined area of low pressure covered an extensive area over the middle and eastern sections of the steamer lanes. This disturbance reached its greatest intensity on the 19th and 20th when moderate to strong gales occurred between the 20th and 40th meridians.

On the 21st the first tropical hurricane of the season was reported about 300 miles northeast of St. Kitts. Charts VIII to XI cover the period from the 22d to 25th, inclusive, and on Chart XI a track is drawn showing the movement of the hurricane from the 21st to 27th. Reports in the table give an idea of the violence of this storm, which was responsible for an immense amount of damage and large loss of life, especially in the Maritime Provinces of Canada and on the fishing banks. The coast of New England also suffered considerable damage, but New York escaped with winds of moderate gale force.

The position as shown on the 26th is somewhat in doubt, as few vessel reports were received from that vicinity. On the 27th with the center of this disturbance near Seydisfjord, Iceland, the storm area extended as far south as the 55th parallel, where westerly winds of force 8 were reported.

From the 28th until the end of the month low pressure continued in the vicinity of Iceland, although during this period moderate weather prevailed over the ocean as a whole.

NOTE.—British S. S. *Fort Victoria*, Capt. J. W. McKenzie, Observer J. F. Dunnett, from Bermuda to New York:

On August 3, between 11 a. m. and noon, A. T. S., approximate position 36° 50' N., 69° 40' W., passed five waterspouts. The last one we passed about noon, and it was about 5 miles south of us. The wind was NNW., force 3 to 4. No variation of the barometer was noticeable.